

● **WARM UP**

Hope is a spiritual substance that is related to our souls. Our inner world is vitally dependent upon this most important substance.

A friend's dad was a prisoner of war in Vietnam for eight long years. When his dad was released over 5,000 people showed up at the airport to welcome him home. News media asked him how he managed to stay sane. His answer was simple, "Hope"! He followed it up with his testimony of faith in Jesus Christ.

● **READ** Hebrews 6:15-20● **BACKGROUND**

Abraham is called the "Father of faith". In this passage the writer is using him as an example of how faith and hope (patience) work together. Abraham's faith believed the promise made, however the promise didn't come immediately. He had to patiently wait for it. Other words to define hope are patience or endurance.

This passage identifies several things that make this kind of hope something that is powerful and trustworthy.

● **QUESTIONS**

- 1 What does verse 18a state is impossible in relationship to God?
- 2 What are the two things God gives that bind Him to keeping His word?

- 3 What does verse 19 identify hope as being for the soul?

- 4 Where does hope lead us in regards to God and His presence?

What is God saying to me?

● **LET'S PRAY**● **REAL LIFE STORIES OF GOD'S POWER**

I was pretty much feeling suicidal. I came to a healing meeting and what surprised me was that I had so much hatred for my father. So first of all Bill Subritzky [prayed to take] all the hatred out for my father and after that he [prayed to heal] a disease called neurofibromatosis. He also said that some curse has now been broken ever since I forgave my father, and I rededicated my life to the Lord. Andrew

True stories from the Dove Ministries files

● **CONSIDER THIS**

A quote that I have used over the years is "Hope keeps the mind steady while faith is on trial". Another one based on Hebrews 11:1 is "Hope dreams and faith works to make it a reality."

Hope is focused on eternity. How do we focus on things that are eternal? What helps us as men to build up hope inside us?

Romans 15:13 says, *"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit."*

